

VA PALO ALTO HEALTH CARE SYSEM

General Practice Residency



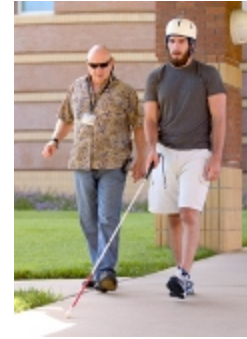
VA Medical Center Palo Alto (www.palo-alto.med.va.gov)

Palo Alto, Calif. is located in the Santa Clara Valley, otherwise known as Silicon Valley. Nestled between two large metropolitan areas, San Francisco to the north and San Jose to the south, there is easy access to many places of interest and a myriad of diverse activities. The San Francisco Bay Area is world renown for its centers of technological advancements, culinary geniuses, cultural diversity and proximity to beautiful beaches and the majestic mountains of the Sierras.

The VA Palo Alto Health Care System (VAPAHCS) is a major tertiary care referral center with three hospital-based divisions and a network of six community based outpatient clinics (CBOCs). VAPAHCS provides primary, secondary and tertiary care within a large geographical region encompassing a 10 county, 13,500 square mile catchment area. Approximately 325,000 veterans reside within VAPAHCS' primary service area (PSA). In FY05, VAPAHCS' veteran enrollment was approximately 80,000, which represents a 75 percent increase when compared to FY99 statistics.

The Palo Alto Division [PAD] is home to one of VA's flagship tertiary care referral centers. This division provides acute inpatient medicine, surgery, psychiatry, spinal cord, rehabilitation medicine, blind rehabilitation, traumatic brain injury, and hospice-palliative care services. The Menlo Park Division [MPD] provides a broad range of mental health programs ranging from substance abuse, Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), homeless rehabilitation, gero-psychiatric and extended care services. MPD is a regional referral facility for domiciliary and inpatient gero-psychiatric services. MPD is also home to a National Center for PTSD. The Livermore Division [LVD] provides nursing home inpatient care along with primary, specialty, mental health and ancillary outpatient services. VAPAHCS' six CBOCs are located in Capitola, Modesto, Monterey, San Jose, Sonora, and Stockton.

In FY05, VAPAHCS provided 707,715 outpatient encounters and admitted 8,656 veterans as inpatients. VAPAHCS operates a total of 885 beds including 49 internal medicine, 42 surgical, 92 acute psychiatry, a 43-bed Spinal Cord Injury (SCI) Center, a 32-bed Western Blind Rehabilitation Center, a 16-bed rehabilitative medicine – Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Center, a 100-bed homeless domiciliary, and 424 skilled nursing home beds, including a 109-bed gero-psychiatric nursing home, 311 extended care beds and a 24-bed hospice/palliative care unit.



VAPAHCS operates a number of specialized regional referral and treatment centers including spinal cord injury, blind rehabilitation, and traumatic brain injury. Other regional referral programs include cardio thoracic surgery, Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and homeless veteran's rehabilitation (domiciliary). The VA Palo Alto was recently designated as a Poly-Trauma Center (one of four in the nation).

With a \$51.8 million annual research budget, VAPAHCS has the second largest research program in VA, with extensive research centers in geriatrics (GRECC), mental health (MIRECC), Alzheimer's disease, spinal cord regeneration and schizophrenia. VAPAHCS operates a Rehabilitation Research and Development Center, and a Health Economics Resource Center a Cooperative Studies Program Coordinating Center, and a Program Evaluation & Resource Center. VAPAHCS operates a Mental Illness Research & Education Clinical Center (MIRECC), and was selected as the site for the first Center for Quality Management in HIV Care. VAPAHCS is also home to a Patient Safety Center of Inquiry, which operates two state-of-the-art simulation centers.



VAPAHCS operates one of the largest Graduate Medical Education (GME) programs in VHA. Medical training is provided to more the 1,300 trainees (yearly) including medical students, interns, residents and fellows from 161 academic institutions.

Today, VAPAHCS maintains six “Centers of Excellence” including: Autopsy, Domiciliary Care for Homeless Veterans (DCHV), HIV/AIDS Services, Spinal Cord Injury, Comprehensive Medical Rehabilitation and Cardiac Surgery. The VAPAHCS was awarded the Worthen Award for academic excellence, the highest award given by VA in academics. VAPAHCS' primary academic affiliation is with the Stanford University School of Medicine.

The dental residents will receive hospital privileges at the VA Hospital and at Stanford University Hospital.



General Practice Residency

PASS (<http://www.adea.org/EPS/searchform.asp>)
MATCH (<http://www.natmatch.com/dentres/>)

The VAPAHCS general practice residency in dentistry is a comprehensive educational program designed to provide clinical, didactic and hospital experience at the post-doctoral level. It is approved by the American Dental Association's Commission on Accreditation.

The general practice residency program is designed to provide the new dental graduate with a one year guided clinical experience in general dentistry as practiced in a hospital setting. Particular emphasis is placed on the dental management of patients with systemic disease and the relationship of medical disorders to oral disease and dental care. The program will allow the resident to learn to work effectively with other health professionals in the hospital environment while giving him or her, the opportunity to refine and advance knowledge and skills in clinical dentistry.



Program Curriculum

The program curriculum is conducted at the postgraduate level (PGY-1) and consists of didactic and clinical instruction in all areas of dental treatment modalities under the guidance of experienced professionals. Emphasis is made in the treatment planning and comprehensive treatment of medically compromised patients through formal case presentations where all aspects of patient management are discussed.

Clinical experience and some advanced training is provided in preventive dentistry, geriatric dentistry, operative, fixed and removable prosthodontics, dental implantology, geriatric dentistry, periodontics, endodontics, oral surgery and oral pathology.



Off-service rotations include rotations to anesthesia, general medicine, emergency medical department, otolaryngology, infectious disease, speech pathology, audiology, cardiology, and oral surgery at Highland General Hospital. Stanford University Medical Center, CFA (craniofacial anomalies) and Stanford-OR (orthognathic cases) by invitation only.

Formal didactic training includes: endodontics, implants, pedodontics, periodontics, pharmacy, prosthodontics, oral pathology, oral surgery and orthodontics.

Resident presentations include: endodontics, hospital dentistry-review of medical conditions, pharmacy, treatment planning, resident seminar and patient case presentations.

BLS and ACLS training and certification are available.

The general practice residents are expected to commit full-time to the GPR program during the academic year. This translates to on-time attendance for patient care, at all scheduled lectures and conferences while devoting time beyond regular clinic hours to program related activities such as hospital rounds, electronic records and preparation for presentations. Residents are expected to actively participate in all case presentations, treatment planning discussions and to critically analyze and discuss scientific articles during the journal club meetings.

Salary and Benefits

An annual stipend of ~\$51,000 is provided per agreement. (The average apartment housing in the Santa Clara Valley ranges from \$500-\$2000 a month for one-three bedrooms.)

Other benefits include but are not limited to:

- Medical Insurance
- Group Life Insurance
- 20 days leave
- 10 Federal Holidays
- Educational leave by prior arrangement
- Scrubs and free parking

During the off-service rotations, residents must adhere to the policies and work schedules of the services to which they are assigned. They will be under the direct supervision of the attending staff or chief resident.

Residents are expected to diagnose and treat veteran patients in a diligent and compassionate manner and to relate well and respectfully to fellow workers and the general public. Appropriate dress and appearance is required for all activities associated with the program. PPE and Scrub-wear is provided.

Formal evaluations of the residents are conducted quarterly by the attending staff. A certificate is awarded by the Department of Veterans Affairs after satisfactory performance and favorable recommendation of the attending staff and the program director.



Resident Year at a Glance

<u>Rotation</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Duration</u>
General Dentistry	VA Palo Alto	30 weeks
Oral Surgery	VA Palo Alto & Livermore Div. Highland General Hospital Stanford Hospital	8 weeks 1 month By Invitation
Anesthesia Rotation	VA Palo Alto	2 weeks
Audiology	VA Palo Alto	1 half-day
Cardiology	VA Palo Alto	By Invitation

Caniofacial Anomalies Clinic	Stanford Hospital	By Invitation
Dental Emergency Triage	VA Palo Alto	7-8 weeks
Emergency Room	VA Palo Alto	1 week
Otolaryngology	VA Palo Alto	3-4 days
General Medicine	VA Palo Alto	1 week
Geriatric Dentistry	VA Menlo Park	1-2 weeks
Immunology Clinic	VA Palo Alto	2 half-days
Speech Pathology	VA Palo Alto	1 day

Faculty:

Lori Beeninga, DDS FAAHD Dental Service Chief-(**UCLA**)
Jim Beatty, DDS, Assistant Chief- (**Ohio State Univ.**)
Lakshmi Subramanian, DDS, Assistant Chief Livermore Div.- (**UCLA**)
Mark Diehl DMD, FAGD (**Washington Univ., St. Louis**)
Shannon Parr, DDS, GPR Program Director- (**UCSF**)
Ann Chen, DDS (**UCLA**)
Ian Lin, DMD (**Univ. Penn**)
Frank Martinez, DDS **Periodontist**, (**USC, Perio. Navy-Bethesda, MD**)
Al Sze, DDS (**UOP**)
Ken Hsu, DDS **Prosthodontist**, (**Univ. of IL, VAMC Hines, IL**)

Staff Oral Surgeons:

Dr. Mitchell Day, DDS (**UCSF, OMFS Sinai Hospital, Detroit, MI & Allegheny General Hospital, Pittsburg, PA**)
Joerg Wittenburg, DDS, MD (**UOP, OMFS LSU**)
Al Steunenber, DDS (**UCSF, OMFS Missouri**)

Consultants:

Pedodontist: Dr. Randy Ligh, DMD, (**Temple, Pedo. UCLA**)
Orthodontist: Dr. Larry Morrill, DDS, (**USC, Ortho., UCSF**)
Endodontist: Dr. Lynn Baldassari-Cruz, DDS, (**UCSF, Endo. Univ. Ohio**)
Dr. Bruce Fogel, DDS, (**UCLA, Endo. Harvard**)
Dr. Kingstone Shih, DDS, (**UCSF, Endo. Temple**)
General: Dr. Tom Warden, DDS (**UCLA**)
Dr. Ruchi Nijjar, DDS (**UOP**)